**Litchi based processing industries in Bihar**

†2018. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to promote litchi based processing industry in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up food processing industries on its own. The Ministry is, however, implementing Plan schemes to provide financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for technology upgradation, establishment and modernization of the food processing units. The assistance is provided to private industries, public sector undertakings, non-governmental organizations, cooperatives, etc. for technically feasible and financially viable projects. Litchi based processing industries also qualify for such assistance. The rate of assistance for establishment/modernization of food processing units is 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works, subject to maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% of the project cost, subject to maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas. The Ministry also issue licenses under Fruit Product Order, 1955 for ensuring sanitary and hygienic conditions in manufacture of fruit and vegetable products.

**Processing facilities in NER**

†2019. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in all the States of North-Eastern Region quality oranges, pine-apples and ginger are produced;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that these items are sold there cheaply because of lack of arrangements for processing thereof;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.